

REMARKS

At the outset, the undersigned calls to the Examiner's attention the Substitute Power of Attorney filed herewith. Please change the correspondence address on this matter accordingly.

The new address is:

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Claims 1, 4-6, 9, 10 and 13-28 remain pending in the application. Independent claims 1, 6, 10, 14, 16, 18 and 20 have been amended in order to clarify and better claim the invention. It is respectfully submitted that these claims are now in condition for reconsideration and allowance.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 1 to 28 over Dye U.S. Patent 5,838,334 in view of Silverbrook U.S. Patent 6,020,894 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). This rejection is respectfully traversed as follows.

Neither Dye nor Silverbrook, alone or in combination, teach or suggest a graphics driver that is configured to cause a computer to increment a visibility tag corresponding to the second drawing surface when a z-order of the second drawing surface is changed, and to compute a new set of rectangular clip segments if the visibility tag corresponding to the second drawing surface is not the same as a visibility tag corresponding to the first drawing surface. According to the graphics driver of the present invention, a new set of rectangular clip segments is recalculated only for the visible portion of the second drawing surface at its change, thus drawing process of

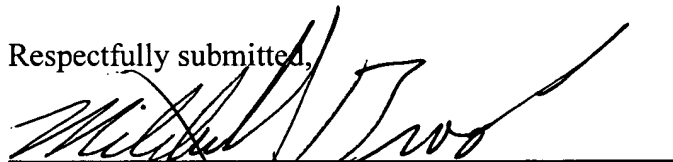
the computer executing the graphics driver is facilitated. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 1, 6, 10, 14, 16, 18 and 20 respectfully is traversed.

Claims 4, 5, 9, 13, 15, 17, 19 and 21-28 were rejected over Dye in view of Silverbrook under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Each of these claims depends from one of the independent claims. Accordingly, as discussed above, the rejection of claims 4, 5, 9, 13, 15, 17, 19 and 21-28 respectfully is traversed.

Conclusion

Favorable consideration and allowance of claims 1, 4-6, 9, 10 and 13-28 is solicited. Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mitchell P. Brook', is written over a horizontal line.

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